History # 299
Re: Oswald, Nosenko, and Russian Connection

Note: Copies of the Oswald visa/london to Helsinki. Might note the way Epsien treats the timing.

Also note Epstein's treatment of the Assassination . . . .The non-book quality of Legend.

Notes on Nosenko:

Might begin with the Barron book and the description of what Nosenko brought to the CIA. The information he sent to the CIA after working for the Counter-Intelligence branch. The time of his defection. . .

The KGB volumes on Oswald. Some 8 in number. Nosenko never saw them all or even more than a fraction of the entire record. This despite what he told the FBI.

Note: The Jan. 27th transcript of WC executive session has Dulles speculating on Oswald as an intelligence agent or working for a US intelligence agency--which cpuld only have been the CIA. Dulles helped shift attention away from The Company and to the FBI in that session.

Chronology:

Nosenko began working for the CIA in early 1962. His work was witnin the Counter-Intelligence branch of the CIA--Helms-Angleton-Bagley branch

Oswald was accused of assassinating JFK on Nov. 22, 1963

Nosenko defected to the USA in February 1964

Nosenko was made available by the CIA to the FBI in late February and early March of 1964. He told the FBI that the KGB regarded Oswald as a "sleeper" agent in place. That is, Oswald was employed by the Plans division or counter-intelligence network within the CIA.

Immediately after Nosenko agreed to testify in secret to the WC a CIA delegation headed by Helms, DD of Plans and Angleton's superiod, started to talk with the WC into ignoring Nosenko's ifmation by throwing up the fear that Nosenko might be a "disinformation" plant himself . . .sent here to divert the Commission away from the truth about Oswald,etc.

Nosenko disappears. Now begins his three years of incarceration by the CIA--see Hart Testimony.

Point here is that the WC knew about Nosenko's allegations about Oswald. They had the summaries of the Nosenko FBI testimony--see the Clawson and Coleman summaries,etc. The WC refused to hear Nosenko testify even in secrecy. They allowed themselves to be thrown into a purple funk by the CIA--Helms--apprehensions about Nosenko's bone fides.

See the June 23, 1964 transcript . . . . The WC settled the matter by ignoring Nosenko. Ignoring any allegations he made about Oswald. And settled the matter of Oswald and CIA connections simply by doing what was done in the case of Hoover and FBI--instead of any investigation the WC accepted as a substitute the affidavit of Director McCone that Oswald was never connected with the CIA.

Why the Nosenko "legend" about his defection --the impossibility of its truth that Nosenko was sent to the US to divert attention away from an Oswald-Russian connection in the assassination of JFK.

From the very first--from the moment LBJ authorized Hoover to "leak" the findings of the FBI investigation into the assassination--early in December--before the WC had the access to the report--the Russians knew that the official story was a "single lone-nut" no-conspiracy story by American officialdom. The Russians may not understand democractic ways, but they know how the Bureaucracy works. . .There was no need to send Nosenko over in February to play the role of plant or "disinformation" agency . . . .